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MEMORIAL MEETING APRIL 14, 1911, IN COM-  
MEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE BREAKING OUT OF THE  
WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

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The Illinois State Historical Society held a very interesting and largely attended meeting on April 14, 1911, in the old Supreme Court room in the Capitol building at Springfield, in commemoration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumter, the real opening of the Civil War.

Gen. Smith D. Atkins, of Freeport, told of the part taken by northern Illinois in the great struggle. His address was a most valuable contribution to Illinois history. General Atkins had been a participant in many of the historic events of which he spoke. His address was an admirable one.

The address of Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin, of Peoria, was entitled "The Slave Empire," and it was of thrilling interest. Mr. Baldwin traced the causes of the war and gave the social and economic reasons which led to it.

The address of Col. Bluford Wilson, of Springfield, on the part taken by Southern Illinois in the war, was full of valuable information and statistics and was a revelation to most of the audience as to the great service to the State and the Union of that part of the State of Illinois known as "Egypt."

In the evening Judge Marcus Kavanagh, of Chicago, delivered an address on the Civil War in America. This address was one of the most eloquent and scholarly addresses which the Historical Society has been privileged to hear.

One of the interesting parts of the program was the singing of the old war songs by the audience, led by a quartette of ladies from the Woman's Relief Corps, with Mrs. G. Clinton Smith as leader. Some of these ladies had sung these songs during the days of the war. A register book was kept and old soldiers were asked to register and nearly fifty of the veterans signed it. Their autographs will be kept as a part of the records of the meeting.

The program in full is as follows:

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1911, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE  
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEGINNING OF  
THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

At the Afternoon Session the Subject was the *Part taken  
by Illinois in the Great War.*

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 2:30 O'CLOCK.

Music—The Old War Songs, under direction of the  
Woman's Relief Corps Quartette. Mrs. G. Clinton  
Smith, Leader.

Music—"Just Before the Battle, Mother."

The Introduction of the Speakers was made by Hon.  
Clark E. Carr, President Illinois State Historical  
Society.

Music—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground."

Address—"The Patriotism of Northern Illinois. ....  
.....Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Freeport, Ill.

Music—"The Battle Cry of Freedom."

Address—"The Slave Empire. ....  
.....Mr. Eugene F. Baldwin, Peoria, Ill.

Music—"The Vacant Chair."

Address—"Southern Illinois in the Civil War. ....  
.....Hon. Bluford Wilson, Springfield, Ill.

Music—"Marching Through Georgia."

EVENING SESSION, 8:00 o'CLOCK.

Music—Quartette. “Illinois.”

Introduction of the Speaker by Col. Clark E. Carr.

Music—Song, “Kathleen Mavourneen”.....

.....Miss Bessie O'Brien

Encore—“Lorena.”

Address—“The Civil War.”.....

.....Hon. Marcus Kavanagh, Chicago, Ill.

Music—Song, “Ave Maria”.....Miss Bessie O'Brien